

## Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 L-03 OMB-01

T-03 PA-03 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 DODE-00

RSR-01 /070 W

----- 072026

R 161045 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 517

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 2369

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, CB

SUBJ: SIHANOUK INTERVIEW

REF: STATE 026054

1. KHMER EMBASSY, WASHINGTON, INFORMS MININFO THAT OF FOUR JOURNALISTS CITED REFTTEL, THOMAS JEFFERSON WILLIAMS, AP, AND THOMAS JEFFERSON, BOSTON GLOBE, ARE NOT IDENTIFIABLE BY THEIR ORGANIZATIONS. ASSUME ERRORS IN TRANSMISSION. REQUEST NAMES BE VERIFIED AND KHMER EMBASSY NOTIFIED.

2. EMBASSY INSTRUCTED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS TO JOURNALISTS PRIOR TO POSSIBLE SIHANOUK INTERVIEW:

A. SIHANOUK HAS ALWAYS POSED OBSTACLES TO IMPLEMENTATION OF 1954 GENEVA ACCORDS, PARTICULARLY IN ALLOWING NVA/ VC FORCES ILLEGAL USE OF KHMER TERRITORY AND PERMITTING THEM TO UTILIZE COUNTRY AS BASE OF OPERATIONS AGAINST NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES.

B. HE HAS CONSTANTLY OPPOSED THE COURSE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT FOLLOWED BY MOST COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA, PARTICULARLY AS IT TENDS TOWARD REGIONAL COOPERATION. HE HAS OPPOSED ASEAN AND COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THIS ASSOCIATION ,  
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ACCUSING THEM OF BEING AMERICAN LACKIES SIMPLY BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT PRO- CHINESE AS HE IS.

C. IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT SIHANOUK HAS ALWAYS BEEN VIOLENTLY HOSTILE TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND THAT HE HAS TAKEN EVERY OCCASION TO INJURE THEM.

D. SIHANOUK WAS REJECTED BY THE PEOPLE BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MARCH 18, 1970, AND THE KHMER REPUBLIC IS A LEGAL ENTITY WHICH HOLDS REAL POPULAR ELECTIONS.

3. MININFO DOES NOT PLAN TO COUNTER EFFECT OF SIHANOUK PRESS- TV CONFERENCE BEYOND MEASURES INDICATED ABOVE, BUT ASSURES EMBASSY THAT SHOULD ANY OF MEMBERS OF POOL PLANNING TO INTERVIEW HIM WISH SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT WITH LON NOL IN ADVANCE, THIS COULD BE ARRANGED.  
SWANK

SECRET

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PINT, CB  
**To:** EA  
HONG KONG  
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